(ग) यदि हां, तो ऐसी खानों की संख्या कितनी है और इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

खान मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार) (श्री बलराम सिंह यादव) : (क) केन्द्र सरकार सीधे किसी खान का संचालन नहीं करती है ।

(ख) और (ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Purchasing Power of Labourers

767. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state in manner in which Government propose to improve the purchasing power of labourers without affecting the cost of production?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SING GHATOWAR): Government is making every effort to control the price rise. Public distribution system is also being streamlined. These measures are expected to improve the purchasing power of the labourers. Guidelines have also been issued to all the State Govts/U.T. Administrations for periodical revision of minimum wages duly taking into account the rise in Consumer Price Index. Wages are also negotiated keeping in view, *inter-alia* rise in the cost of living.

Considering that the wage bill is a small proportion of the total expenditure and also the fact that the improved purchasing power will bring about an increase in productivity, the cost of production is not likely to be affected.

Irregularities in Sale of Milk in Mayapuri

768. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Milk Booth No. 0642 is mainly for the benefit of the residents of Delhi Development Authority's MIG flats, G-8 Area, Mayapuri, New Delhi (Rajouri Garden Residential Scheme);

(b) whether Government are aware that 90 per cent supply of milk is sold to tea-stall owners who take away bulk milk supply in containers resulting in inconvenience to the residents; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The concessionaire at the Booth issues maximum 4 tokens (*i.e.* 2 litres of milk) to a customer on first come, first served basis and nobody is allowed to draw milk in bulk.

Stoppage of Supply of Mother Dairy Milk for Commercial Purposes

769. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mother Dairy Booths cater to needs of General Public only or also supply milk for commercial purposes also such as Halwais/Tea stall owners; and

(b) whether Mother Dairy has opened separate Booths for supply of milk for comercial use and if so, the locations thereof and if not, what steps Government propose to take to stop supply of milk for commercial purposes from its outlets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) and (b) Mother Dairy caters to the needs of general consumers and does not supply milk for commercial purposes to Halwais and Tea Stall Owners. However, Mother Dairy has made bulk sale of milk to certain Institutions/Organisations for their own use through its Booths. Mother